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credit not only to that University, but to English scholarship in general. (On p. 9, l. 3, for הַנִּפְר read הַרִּנְפֹר—a rare instance of a misprint—and to the note on xiii. 27, reference may now be made to Guidi, *Revue Biblique*, 1903, pp. 241-4.)

S. A. COOK.

BURNEY'S "NOTES ON THE HEBREW TEXT OF KINGS."

THE Rev. C. F. Burney's *Notes on the Hebrew Text of the Books of Kings* (Clarendon Press, 1903), is intended to do for those books what Prof. Driver thirteen years ago did for the books of Samuel. Externally as well as internally the two works form a pair. The needs of beginners are steadily kept in view, questions of grammar are handled with comparative fullness, and since the text of Kings has suffered on the whole to a much less degree than that of Samuel, teachers and lecturers will doubtless be glad to avail themselves of Mr. Burney's book for their classes. Constant reference is made to the ancient versions, and the author's treatment of textual questions is marked with conspicuous caution, which, it need hardly be said, is exactly what is required in a textbook of this kind.

In a short Introduction, Mr. Burney has prepared in condensed form some useful observations on the structure of the Books of Kings, the leading characteristics of the versions, and a helpful synopsis of the synchronisms of the compiler. In an Appendix he has collected the more important contemporary inscriptions which illustrate the books:—the Moabite stone (text and translation), the Siloam inscription, and selections from the Assyrian records of Shalmaneser II, and the third campaign of Sennacherib.

The grammatical and syntactical notes are all that can be desired. Mr. Burney has also taken pains to introduce the student to an appreciation of the stylistic characteristics betrayed by the various writers (e. g. in the narratives on the northern kingdom, p. 208 sq.). Particular prominence is given to the phraseology of the Deuteronomic Redactor, a full list of whose phrases is collected upon pp. xiii-xv. Equally valuable is the careful attention paid throughout to the Septuagint (cp. especially pp. 163-6: a comparison of the Hebrew and Greek recensions of the history of Jeroboam). Mention must also be made of the admirable series of critical notes on the difficult passages containing the account of Solomon's building operations;

the "bases," we may add, are rendered intelligible by illustrations of bronze stands which were recently discovered in Cyprus.

It is characteristic of Mr. Burney's thoroughness that in a note on the use of $\cdot\text{נָּ}$ (p. 208) he has an independent judgment upon the well-known Samaritan haematite weight, around which ranged a famous controversy some years ago¹; that on 2 Kings xx. 12 he has a useful historical note upon Merodach-Baladan; and that on 1 Kings x. 28 he makes the reader acquainted with the best literature on the Cilician *Muṣri* (מֻצְרִיִּים), which the E. V. renders "Egypt." This, we may add, is the only *Muṣri* outside Egypt recognized by Mr. Burney.

Whether text-critical, philological, historical, geographical, or archaeological, the notes will be found as interesting as they are profitable, and Hebrew students may rely upon finding in Mr. Burney's book just the kind of information which they are likely to need. In a few points of détail only is there any occasion to dissent. In 2 Kings i. 9b, for וַיֵּשֶׁב is it not better to understand וַיֵּהָיֶה "and behold he was sitting"? (see Prof. Kennett, *The Hebrew Tenses*, p. 34 sq.). In 1 Kings ix. 15, Hazor and Megiddo, mentioned after Jerusalem and before Gezer, can scarcely be situated in Northern Palestine. On p. 43, among the Aramaic examples of masculine nouns in ת, it is very doubtful whether *אמרת* (Ass. *Ummadata*) and *ארתרת* (Persian ?) may be justifiably cited.

S. A. COOK.

¹ But we question whether Mr. Burney is correct in reading נָנָּ (for נָנָּ).